

**From:** James D. Bearden  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 11/16/01 11:36pm  
**Subject:** Public Interest

To Whom It May Concern,

Our government was formed to defend it's people from threats both foreign and domestic. I believe the proposed settlement for Microsoft and the Department of Justice is not in the public interest and will do little to remedy Microsoft's stranglehold on the computer industry, much less punish them for being the Supreme Court affirmed monopolist that they are. I feel that the Department of Justice sought this weak settlement with a belief that it would be good for America and turned a blind eye toward Microsoft's history of skillfully circumventing legal restraints and how much more good a stronger settlement would bring.

I have spent many hours reading the settlement, and even though I am no lawyer I do know something about the computer industry. Please, the proposed settlement is not a good one, and is little better than no settlement at all. In fact, I would much rather that the Department of Justice eventually lose in court rather than see Microsoft shrug this off. At least fine them a few billions dollars: It might irritate them for a few days, but they might at least respect the law during that period.

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